QA-14 Bordley, site Wye Island Road, Queenstown

From Frederick Emory's Queen Anne's County, Maryland: Its Early History and Development (1950), pp. 534-535.

"The Bordley Mansion," says the writer in the Record, "stood on the extreme south-western point of [Wye] Island, on the farm now tenanted by Mr. Valentine Bryan, and owned by Mr. Wm. J. Price. The foundations of the old manor house are still plainly visible, on a hill near the junction of Front and Back Wye Rivers. The old brick building, which was never completed as designed, was intended to form a square, in true oriental style, with a spacious court-yard in the centre, for flowers, fountains and trees, and in which stood a magnificent weeping willow. Around the old house stood a few old trees, in regular rows, marking the location of a once splendid park. Nearly opposite the manor house, on the shores of both Front and Back Wye, are to be seen the remains of substantial stone piers. These were formed of stout blocks of granite, firmly imbedded in layers of lead. These piers were evidently constructed for the accommodation of a large shipping trade, and many foreign vessels, it is said, unloaded cargoes here. Not many years ago a boy fishing near one of these piers, found a Spanish gold piece of the value of twenty dollars, and bearing the date of nearly a century and a-half ago."

